

# NORTHERN ONTARIO DELIGHTED HEARST

Much Real Advancement Has  
Been Made During Year

## FIRES HELPED SETTLERS

Premier Returned Yesterday From  
Trip Up North—Pulpwood Men  
Busy—Seeds for Farmers—Saw  
the Detention Camp.

"I was more than delighted with the progress made last year. I think perhaps there has been more real advancement in the clearing of land and along agricultural lines than we have had in any two years at least previously," declared Premier Hearst yesterday when asked for his impressions of his tour in Northern Ontario. The dry summer last year and the fires were a great aid, said the Premier, to the settlers in making increased clearings and preparing a larger acreage for cultivation. A tremendous quantity of pulpwood was taken out last year at every station and siding, not only along the T. & N. O., practically from New Liskeard to Cochrane, but along the Transcontinental. For some of this wood a market had not yet been found, but it was hoped that at an early date it would all be marketed. Settlers were going in now, and the prospects in the north were never more optimistic than they are at present. We expected that practically the full amount of the appropriation would be expended.

With reference to the provision which had been made for the supply of seed, Premier Hearst asserted this had been received with a great deal of satisfaction. But for this arrangement, he said, many of the settlers would not have been able to sow all the land they had prepared and they certainly would not have been able to obtain first-class seed.

### Surveyed Conditions

The Premier said the object of his tour was a survey of conditions in that district. He had made it a practice to make this once a year since he had been in public life and he intended to keep it up. The Northern Development Branch was still under him, and he wanted to see what had been done last winter and what lay ahead for the coming summer. He was also anxious to see what advancement there had been along settlement lines, so as to enable him better to plan and devise future work.

### Saw War Prisoners.

The head of the Ontario Government took occasion to visit the detention camp, where 450 Austrians and Turks are interned, with a number of soldiers guarding them. The prisoners were well looked after in every possible way, and there was little difficulty in the matter of discipline. One hundred and eighty to two hundred acres had been chopped down and the prisoners were in the process of clearing that up.

Hon. Mr. Ferguson, Minister of Lands, Forests and Mines, who accompanied the Premier, says the settlers in the north managed to get through the winter splendidly; there was little poverty.